

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who obtained license numbers at the Masonic Temple and vicinity are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] made available the information to whom license tags were registered.

[REDACTED] (c) [REDACTED] who attended the Deacon's Meeting, mentioned to SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on 8/30/65 that he attended meeting with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] did not discuss in detail what went on at the meeting.

LEADS:

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION:

AT BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA.

LHM sets forth six license tags as well as to whom registered, address, and make of car. Four of these cars are registered to Bogalusa residents, one to Monroe resident, and one to Angie, Louisiana, resident. The LHM also sets forth names of the alleged Deacons in the meeting in Jackson from Louisiana. Will through sources conduct appropriate investigation to

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identify individuals from Bogalusa who attended meeting unless already known to New Orleans.

Will attempt to determine CHARLES SIMS and ROY BURRIS' future plans for assisting in the organization of Chapters in Mississippi.

JACKSON DIVISION

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

Will maintain contact with sources to obtain background concerning organization of DDJ. If Chapter in Mississippi organized, will attempt to determine leadership, strength of members, activities, as well as arms acquired. Attempt to determine potentiality for violence, any subversive or outside influence placed upon the Chapters.

CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Jackson, Mississippi

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 3, 1965

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

[REDACTED] b1

The source advised that SIMS is allegedly the president and BURRIS the vice-president of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. (DDJ) Chapter at Bogalusa.

[REDACTED] b1

The source advised that a pamphlet is being distributed showing that the Deacons of Bogalusa will be at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson on Sunday, 3:00 p.m., August 29, 1965. The pamphlet was printed by the Hinds County Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP)

[REDACTED] b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gpl/jv 7-17-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-3-85

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

157-2466-59

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b1

(C)

On August 30, 1965, the source advised that he had determined the meeting at the Masonic Temple started around 4:00 p.m. and the meeting was called to order by BOLDEN and there were approximately 175 to 200 people in the auditorium. BOLDEN introduced Reverend EDWIN KING, white male, Chaplain at Tougaloo College; Reverend BOB BEACH, white male from Hattiesburg, a special guest. He introduced the MFDP Delegation as HAZEL PALMER, ANNIE DEVINE and JOHNNIE MAE WALKER.

APPROX.

The first Deacon introduced was (first name unknown) WYLIE, described in early 50's, height 5'8", weight 150 pounds, very dark complexion, who furnished background concerning the rise of the DDJ. He stated that all of the Deacons at the meeting were from Bogalusa and they were from the Fourth Street Chapter in Bogalusa.

ROY BURRIS, the vice-president of the Bogalusa Chapter, spoke and he related incidents that have happened in Bogalusa and the fact he believed the Federal Government will eventually support the actions of the DDJ in accordance with basic rights.

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

CHARLES SIMS, president of the Bogalusa Chapter, was introduced and he received a large ovation from the crowd. SIMS introduced the Deacons from Bogalusa who had made the trip and including SIMS and the other speakers, they comprised a total of 12. He introduced (first name unknown) THOMAS, Negro male in early 30's; (first name unknown) JOHNSON in early 20's; (first name unknown) GREEN, Negro male in early 20's, (first name unknown) JOHNSON, Negro male, 65 to 70; (first name unknown) SMITH, Negro male, age about 40.

During SIMS' lecture, he was asked by people in the crowd, How strong a chapter should they have in Jackson as well as in Mississippi? How much money as well as arms does the chapter at Bogalusa have? What are the qualifications to become a Deacon? SIMS stated he would not answer these questions before the group, but any of those interested in forming a chapter in the State would meet with him later and he would be happy to answer these questions.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (c)

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

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[REDACTED] (c)

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CONFIDENTIAL
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

The SWP has been designed by the
Attorney General of the United States
Pursuant to executive order 10450.

The Seattle Branch of SWP is
set forth in the appendix section.

[REDACTED] on (c)

August 3, 1965 that he had determined

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

the DDJ held a meeting at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson, on August 29, 1965. The meeting started around 4:00 p.m. and had several speakers who spoke concerning the impending trip to Washington on August 16, 1965 concerning the "Lobby on Washington, D. C." The source advised that there were 12 Deacons from Bogalusa, Louisiana at the meeting and SIMS was their leader and he spoke on the necessity of organizing a Chapter in Mississippi. The vice-president of the Chapter in Bogalusa also spoke. He furnished a description of the harassment that took place by police in Louisiana and how their children were not protected by school authorities.

[REDACTED] b1
(C)

[REDACTED] b7C
b7D
advised on August 1, 1965 that the following Louisiana and Mississippi license tags were obtained by [REDACTED] in the vicinity of the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, on the afternoon of August 29, 1965. [REDACTED] advised that the license

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

numbers have been checked with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and the
person to whom registered and address
has been obtained.

The following license and background was
furnished by [REDACTED]

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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b7

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] b7C
Louisiana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY - SEATTLE BRANCH

In May, 1941, a source advised that during the month of May, 1941, the Seattle Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was reorganized and received official recognition as a branch of the Party from the national office of the SWP in New York, New York.

On May 6, 1964, another source advised that the Seattle Branch, SWP, with headquarters at 3815 5th Avenue N. E., Seattle, Washington, is a present active affiliate of the National SWP. According to source, membership in the Seattle Branch includes RICHARD FRASER, who is a member of the SWP National Committee and his wife CLARA FRASER, who is an alternate member of the SWP National Committee.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

CONFIDENTIAL

FBI

Date: September 13, 1965

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-88 BY SP1 gch/jf

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-1017) (P)

RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka

"The Deacons"

RM

OO: NEW ORLEANS

9/9/65, advised that

has interviewed numerous leaders connected with various civil rights action groups in Southern States.

During a recent interview with

their conversation turned to the captioned organization. She had heard that letters had been sent out to various residents of Tuskegee, requesting their attendance at a meeting on or about August 15, 1965, at Tuskegee, and soliciting membership in this organization. informed her that he had attended this meeting but he declined to discuss the organization with her and did not admit actual membership.

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - New Orleans
- 2 - Mobile

CBC:iwd

(7)

D. C. Wick

REC-68

157-2466

4 SEP 15 1965

7 SEP 1 1965

EX-101

Approved: Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per

SUB CONTROL

MO 157-1017.

He did appear to have a sympathetic interest in the organization. [REDACTED] told her to leave "the Deacons" out of her report on the results of her survey. b7c

[REDACTED]

Efforts are being made through established sources and reliable informants to verify whether or not a chapter of the Deacons is in existence in the Tuskegee community. Since this has not been established no LHM is being submitted at this time.

New Orleans Office, will advise if informants have knowledge of a formation of a chapter of the Deacons at Tuskegee, Alabama.

FBI

Date: 9/14/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

AIRTEL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Priority)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

OTHERWISE

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-1542) (P) REC-24

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM

Re Newark airtel to New York, dated 9/10/65 and
New York telephone call to Newark, 9/13/65.

Information copies are being supplied to Jackson
and New Orleans as New York is of the opinion the captioned
and "The Deacons for Defense and Justice" (DDJ) are one
and the same.

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

- 11-808 RB.
- 3-Bureau (RM)
- 2-Newark (157-New) (RM)
- 1-Jackson (INFO) (RM)
- 1-New Orleans (INFO) (RM)
- 1-New York

GAJ:pam
(9)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1/sep/4 7-17-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-14-85

Approved 22 1965

Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

M Per

INFO SEC.

SEP 17 1965 XEROX

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-442684

NY 157-1542

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

For the information of the Bureau and other receiving offices, though there is no information to indicate the organization is sponsoring this affair, the current New York City Address-Telephone Directory reflects the West Side Unified Action Council, phone 362-4954, is located at 100 West 82nd Street, NYC. N.Y.

[REDACTED] the (c) b1
West Side Unified Action Committee (WSUAC), 100 West 82nd Street, NYC, was formerly known as West Side CORE.

The WSUAC has sponsored or co-sponsored demonstrations, rallies and/or fund-raising affairs during 1965 with one or more of the following organizations:

The Upper West Side Du Bois Club
The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee
The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

(c)
[REDACTED] advised. b7D

LEADS

NEWARK

AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY. [REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (c)

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK [REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-3022)

SEP 9 1965

FROM: SAC, WFO (157-583)

ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER (OBP)
RACIAL MATTERS
(OO:NY)

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
5 - Chicago (157-678) (Enc. 5) (RM)
 (1 -) [REDACTED]
 (1 -) (RAM)
 (1 -) (ACT)
 (1 -) [REDACTED]
2 - Cincinnati (Enc. 2) (RM)
 (1 - 157-628)
 (1 -) (RAM)
2 - Cleveland (Enc. 2) (RM) *DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.*
 (1 - 157-393)
 (1 -) (RAM)
5 - Detroit (Enc. 5) (RM)
 (1 - 157-958)
 (1 - 100-22248) [REDACTED]
 (1 - 100-22136) [REDACTED]
 (1 -) (RAM)
 (1 -) [REDACTED]
2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 2) (RM)
3 - New Orleans (Enc. 3) (RM)
 (1 -) (OBP)
 (1 -) [REDACTED]
 (1 -) (Deacons for Defense and Justice)
2 - New York (Enc. 2) (RM)
 (1 - 157-1469)
 (1 - 100-91911) [REDACTED]
4 - Philadelphia (Enc. 4) (RM)
 (1 - 157-1508)
 (1 -) [REDACTED]
 (1 -) (RAM)
 (1 -) (Freedom Action Committee)
2 - Portland (Enc. 2) (RM)
 (1 -) (OBP)
 (1 -) (RAM)
4 - WFO
 (1 - 157-583) (OBP)
 (1 - 157-528) [REDACTED]
 (1 - 157-461) (RAM)
 (1 - 157-425) (ACT)

HHK:wjj
(34)

50 SEP 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-18-80 BY SP/SPH/JS
for Comp# 84,266

157-2466-
NOT RECORDED
150 SEP 22 1965

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-3022-156

WFO 157-583

ReNYtel, 9/1/65; reWFOairtel and LHM, 9/2/65;
reWFOtel, 9/2/65; reCGtel, 9/8/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM regarding an OBP meeting attended by [REDACTED] in Detroit, Michigan, on 9/4,5/65. LHM copies being sent as follows: Chicago, 5; Cincinnati, 2; Cleveland, 2; Detroit, 5; Los Angeles 2;; New Orleans, 3; New York, 2; Philadelphia, 4; Portland, 2.

[REDACTED] furnished the LHM information to SA [REDACTED] on 9/8/65. On 9/8/65, [REDACTED] furnished SA [REDACTED] the copies of the booklets and attachments. Inasmuch as WFO has no knowledge whether New York may have copies of the booklets and SNCC newspaper, no copies were made due to the large number of pages which would need to be copied. WFO will maintain these booklets in the 1A serial of WFO 157-583.

The confidential source in the LHM is [REDACTED]. It is believed that [REDACTED]'s identity as a source should be treated as confidential in view of the possible danger existing if [REDACTED] were disclosed as having helped the FBI.

[REDACTED] expressed great concern regarding the future of the OBP. He was disgusted, and voiced it, regarding JESSE GRAY's action in having invited RAM to the Detroit meeting. [REDACTED] stated he was shocked at the arrogant attitude displayed by the reported RAM members at the OBP meeting. He advised that the attempt by the group of about ten men, each carrying an "M-1" Army rifle, to enter the meeting frightened [REDACTED]. He was blaming JESSE GRAY for showing poor leadership in the OBP. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] is also very concerned about JESSE GRAY's apparent lack of leadership qualities. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] is giving serious consideration to terminating his affiliation with the OBP as he is afraid that some irresponsible individual or individuals may do something which could touch off a riot at some future date. Such an act would give the entire "Civil Rights" Movement a most unfavorable reputation, one that would destroy most of the progress made to the present. [REDACTED] stated he wants to work for "rights" for Negroes but not where there may be a chance of violence.

WFO 157-583

██████████ stated that he hopes to discuss the future of the OBP with ██████████ and JESSE GRAY ██████████. ██████████ will then decide whether he will continue to work with the OBP. He hopes to convince GRAY that ██████████'s method of moving slowly is desirable. ██████████ praised the efforts of President LYNDON B. JOHNSON in attempting to obtain for all Negroes the rights that have been denied them in the past.

Copies of the LHM being disseminated locally to Secret Service, OSI, MDW, DIO-NDW.

WFO has no characterizations for:

Northern Student Movement
Freedom Action Committee
Deacons for Defense and Justice

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____
- ☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: _____

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Washington, D.C.
September 9, 1965

ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER (OBP)

On September 8, 1965, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as follows concerning the OBP meeting held in Detroit, Michigan, on September 4 and 5, 1965:

The meeting was originally planned to be a meeting of the OBP "steering committee" and would have been for a small group. However, Jesse Gray, National Director, OBP, on his own initiative, decided to extend an invitation to the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) of New York City. RAM is described in the appendix section. The end result was a meeting of several hundred persons present at the Detroit meeting of OBP at 5028 Joy Road. Jesse Gray presided at the September 4, 1965, meeting. A copy of the program is attached. Among those present were members of: RAM from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Detroit, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio; and Portland, Oregon; Northern Student Movement represented by Mr. Strickland of Detroit, and some from New York City; Deacons For Defense and Justice represented by Ernest Thomas of Bogalusa, Louisiana; Associated Community Teams (ACT) represented by Nahaz Rogers and wife of Chicago, and Julius W. Hobson, Washington, D.C. Others present were: William R. Davis, of the Freedom Action Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, OBP member James Boggs and wife Grace Boggs, Detroit, Michigan. Lawrence Landry of the Chicago ACT did not attend. Reverend Albert B. Cleague, Jr., a Detroit minister who is campaigning for Detroit councilman, was also present. There were many young Negroes present who were reportedly members of RAM. Many individuals present refused to divulge their identity, especially among those reported to be RAM members. The RAM members had no visible leaders at the meeting.

The Saturday, September 4, 1965, evening session was called to order by James Boggs. Registration for delegates was \$1 per person. Boggs welcomed those present, and extended his greetings to all.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-18-80 BY SP1/gcl/jh

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

157-3022-156

157-2466-

ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

Jesse Gray, National Director, OBP, then spoke about the present poor economic conditions of Negroes in the United States (US). Gray also stated many Negroes were against fighting in the present conflict between South Viet Nam and North Viet Nam in which the US is involved. Gray attempted to counsel against the tearing-up and destruction of Selective Service cards carried by young men eligible for duty in the armed forces of the US. This suggestion had come from an unidentified man.

Ernest Thomas of the "Deacons For Defense and Justice" of Bogalusa, Louisiana, was a guest speaker. He talked about "Self Defense" as practiced by the "Deacons" in Louisiana. Thomas voiced his opposition to the refusal to fight for the US in Viet Nam. He stated the "Deacons" hoped to protect themselves and other Negroes against any attacks by "white people" in the South. Thomas stated the "Deacons" have obtained guns for self-defense and have established "ham" radio stations to provide quick communication for the "Deacons". He also urged those present to refrain from becoming involved in any riots or acts of violence.

Two unidentified male Negroes from Los Angeles reported concerning the recent riot and destruction of a great portion of Los Angeles. These men reported as follows: The looting and shooting in Los Angeles was done by organized gangs, not named, who had been ordered to shoot but not hit anyone. One policeman was hit accidentally. This occurred as a result of 40-50 young "kids" shooting in the destroyed area. The looting was also done by organized gangs who looted block by block. The organizers were not mentioned.

During the September 4, 1965, meeting, persons reportedly members of RAM urged that Negroes called for induction into military service, go to the local boards and tear up their Selective Service cards. These RAM members also indicated they believed the OBP was much too mild in dealing with the problems of housing, jobs, education, and police brutality as they concern the Negroes in the US.

RAM in Detroit reportedly has assembled 50 to 60 young Negroes eligible for induction into the US Armed Forces at the Wayne County, Michigan, induction center. They are

ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

reported to be ready to tear up their Selective Service cards when called for induction at the induction center. These men were located by an announcement made from an automobile which had been driven around in the "ghetto" area of Detroit. RAM people also suggested that Negroes in the armed forces should refuse to follow orders of officers.

The first confidential source stated on September 8, 1965, that a Negro named General Baker, Jr. of Detroit, is to be inducted into the US Army on September 10, 1965, in Detroit. Plans for sympathy demonstrations protesting Baker's induction are planned for Cleveland, Ohio, and New York City, but none will be held in Washington, D.C.

Julius W. Hobson, Chairman of District of Columbia (DC) ACT spoke concerning his desire to attend the future conference President Lyndon Baines Johnson wants to hold with leaders of the "Civil Rights" movement. Hobson stated his position would result in maintaining a line of communication with representatives of the US Government interested in eliminating poverty, and providing for the essential needs of the under privileged. The general feeling of those present in many instances was that the OBP should not attend any conference called by President Johnson, as they feared further containment in the present Negro "ghettos" of the large cities in the United States. Hobson told the meeting he would attend any conference called by President Johnson if Hobson is invited.

Unidentified persons present criticized the United States Government's poverty program and called it a failure.

The OBP meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 5, 1965, was presided over by Julius W. Hobson. The afternoon was devoted to arguments for and against serving in the US armed forces in Viet Nam, opposition to fighting in the Viet Nam conflict, refusal to fight in Viet Nam when ordered to do so, and opposition to the present US poverty program.

During the afternoon session about ten young Negro males carrying "M-1" type rifles attempted to enter the meeting place. The first one was refused admission unless he

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8 ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER
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11 disposed of his rifle. That man and the other rifle bearers
12 placed their rifles in a nearby automobile and came to the
13 meeting. There was one policeman directing traffic on a
14 nearby corner during the "rifle" incident. It was not learned
15 whether the rifles were loaded and who carried them.
16

17 The Sunday afternoon meeting adjourned at about
18 3:30 p.m. and about ten persons went to dinner at the James
19 Boggs' home, 3061 Field Street, Detroit.
20

21 Later that afternoon a street rally sponsored by
22 RAM was held on 12th Street in eastern Detroit. Several
23 thousand people attended, apparently from the nearby slum
24 area. The speakers at the rally were Julius W. Hobson,
25 James Boggs, Jesse Gray, and Reverend Albert B. Cleage.
26 Hobson spoke about police brutality, poverty program needs,
27 and the need for adequate employment.
28

29 An unidentified male Negro of RAM stated at the
30 rally that no disturbance was desired and he urged all to
31 attend the September 10 rally planned as a protest demon-
32 stration at the Fort Wayne Induction Station at Livernois
33 and Jefferson Streets in Detroit. He passed out handbills
34 advertising the rally. A copy of the handbill is attached.
35 Unidentified men also passed out copies of the following:
36

37 1. Booklet, 16 pages, entitled "The Los Angeles
38 War Cry", "published by RAM. Black Liberation Front of
39 the USA".
40

41 2. Booklet, 32 pages, captioned "Black America
42 Arm Yourselves For a War of Self Defense and Survival",
43 "published by RAM. Black Liberation Front of the USA".
44

45 3. "Black Vanguard, August 1965", a 59 page
46 book, which can be subscribed to at Black Vanguard,
47 P.O. 502, Detroit 21, Michigan.
48

49 Also available during the OBP meetings was a
50 copy of a newspaper published by The Student Nonviolent
51 Coordinating Committee of California, entitled "The
52 Movement", dated July, 1965.
53

54 The first source also advised that Mr. Strickland,
55 Detroit, Northern Student Movement was very opposed to the
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7 ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER
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11 RAM comments. This caused RAM members to try to get
12 Strickland evicted from the meeting.
13

14 Comments by an unidentified RAM member at the
15 OBP meeting indicated that RAM is the same as an organi-
16 zation known by the letters ARM. This individual stated
17 that RAM is known as ARM in some cities. He did not name
18 the cities.
19

20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED] believed Jesse Gray made
22 a big mistake by inviting RAM to the OBP meeting in Detroit.
23 Their concern was based on the fact that RAM is not a
24 member of the OBP and, therefore, should not have been
25 invited to a meeting which was to be a "steering committee"
26 gathering. [REDACTED] were rather alarmed at the
27 comments and attitude of the RAM members present at the
28 OBP meeting. [REDACTED] are afraid that the OBP may
29 be taken over and dominated by RAM.
30

31 The first source advised further that the OBP
32 will not participate in any acts of destruction of Selective
33 Service cards or advocate insurrection by members of the
34 US armed forces.
35

36 [REDACTED]
37 [REDACTED]
38 [REDACTED]
39 [REDACTED]
40 [REDACTED]
41 [REDACTED]
42 [REDACTED]
43 [REDACTED]
44 [REDACTED]
45 [REDACTED]
46 [REDACTED]
47 [REDACTED]
48 P.A.
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15 REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT
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18 On November 3, 1964, a source made available a
19 document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto,"
20 the document having been obtained by the source from an
21 individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action
22 Movement (RAM).
23

24 This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially
25 organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support
26 the revolutionary objectives of Robert F. Williams, now
27 residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to
28 achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the
29 United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented
30 its program to one of education and political revolution and
31 the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary
32 objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution"
33 that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described
34 in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is,
35 one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world
36 against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist
37 and imperialist nations.
38

39 Regarding Williams, it should be noted that on
40 August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte,
41 North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid
42 Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the
43 issuance of this warrant, Williams fled the United States to
44 Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled
45 "The Crusader" from Havana.
46

47 This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is
48 dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the
49 United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement
50 by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist
51 interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite
52 in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary
53 allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races
54 of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.
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On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of Don Freeman, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to as RAM's "Black Stalin." Freeman served as RAM Chairman, with Maxwell Stanford, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with Freeman since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with Freeman's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

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7 Conference: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

8
9 1000 1/2 Way Road, Ground Floor

10 Phone No. 933 0525

Called to order
September 4, 6 p.m.

11
12 Registration 6 p.m. \$1.00 per delegate

13
14 Saturday evening Session

15 Chairman, Brother James Boggs

16
17 1. Opening remarks by the National Director, Brother Jesse Gray

18
19 2. Self-Defense.

20 Special Guest Speaker, Brother Ernest Thomas
21 "Deacons for Defense and Justice"

22
23 3. "Negro" Conference of U.S.A. President Lyndon Baines Johnson

24
25
26
27 INFORMATION

28
29 1. Breakfast will be served where you are staying.

30
31 2. Sunday morning session will be held at above address at 10 a.m. sharp
32 chaired by Brother Nahaz Rogers, Chicago, Ill.

33
34 3. Afternoon session will be chaired by Brother Julius Hobson, Washington, D.C.

35
36 4. Dinner will be served at the home of Brother James Boggs, 3061 Field St.,
37 3:30 p.m. sharp

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157-3022-156
ENCLOSURE 157-2466-
ENCLOSURE

DAMN the DRAFT TO HELL with Whities ARMY

The white racist decision makers (Johnson and the other thugs), must take us for stone fools if they think black people will serve as cannon fodder for the Hitler type war machine designed to mercilessly slaughter Asians in Vietnam.

Especially in the light of the atrocities committed by the racist beast in Los Angeles. In Los Angeles they called the Bloody slaughter of our people operation "clean sweep". In Vietnam they called the same operation "search and destroy". The victims are the same the world over, dark people fighting white racist imperialism and oppression.

We are serving notice to the white racist that we will fight a nitty gritty, toe to toe head whupping struggle in raceland U.S.A. to liberate our people rather than play a ignominious slave role on this earth again.

JOIN 50,000 ANGRY BLACKS IN A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION ON SEPT. 10 AT FORT WAYNE INDUCTION STATION AT LIVERMOS AND JEFFERSON.

Join The

Sept. 10th
Movement

157-3022-156

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-
ENCLOSURE

San Antonio, Texas.

August 31st., 1965

To Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

The enclosed clipping is alarming because of the seeming laxity of the law in permitting this Organization of Negroes to arm. For self - defense? Never in the history of our country has so much progress for the Negro been accomplished as now. Anti - Castro Communists refugees from Cuba, endeavoring to accumulate arms for the purpose of regaining their country, have been arrested and their arms confiscated by the law, and, there have been accounts in the Press of Anti-Communists Organizations being arrested for having a cache of arms, yet, this Negro Organization openly arms without restraint.

Copies of this clipping have been sent to President Johnson and Texas Governor Connally with the above comments, excusing anonymity, by stating that, one fears to sign their signature since 'our sweet land of liberty' has come to such a sad state of affairs, one may have their tongue cut out for expressing an honest opinion.

Thank you Sir, for having given the matter your attention.

United States Citizen.

P. S. Suggestion to our President to quell riots was deportation for the Leaders and Killers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1/ger/ll

REC- 60 157-2466-62

EX 105

2 SEP 17 1965

ENCLOSURE

Group Formed To Help Arm Negroes

He said the Deacons have chapters in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi.

The Austin group will be called "The Committee to Aid the Deacons," Klein said. He said it will raise money for the Deacons.

Klein, who is in Austin for the summer, is the spokesman for the group.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gcl/jw

ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 9/22/65

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RM

Re Newark AT and LHM dated 9/20/65.

[REDACTED]

Enclosed for Pittsburgh office is a copy of referenced airtel and letterhead memorandum.

- 2 - Bureau
 - 1 - Newark (157-1992)
 - 2 - Pittsburgh (Encl. 2)
 - 1 - Baltimore
- BFN:ers
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SPT gpl/jk 7-17-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-22-85

REC-74

157-2466-63

18 SEP 23 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



SEP 22 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI

Date: 9/20/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1992) (RUC)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP8/BJH 7-17-86
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-20-85

Re New York airtel to the Bureau dated 9/14/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of letterhead memorandum captioned as above. Enclosed for Baltimore and New York are two copies of letterhead memorandum. Enclosed for Jackson and New Orleans is one copy each of letterhead memorandum.

No copy of referenced communication was sent to Baltimore.

[REDACTED]

For the information of Baltimore, The Deacons for Defense and Justice (believed to be identical with captioned organization) are a militant Negro civil rights group who have vowed to fight the Ku Klux Klan with physical violence, if necessary.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)
- 2 - Baltimore (Encs. 2)
- 1 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 1 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 2 - New York (157-1542) (Encs. 2)
- 3 - Newark

REC-67 101
cc & cc LHM 808 RB

1 SEP 21 1965

69 SEP 21 1965
C. Wick (12)

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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10 NK 157-1992

CONFIDENTIAL

11
12
13 For the additional information of Baltimore,
14 New York in re airtel advised that the West Side Unified
15 Action Council (WSUAC) is located at 100 West 32nd St.,
16 New York City, according to the current New York City
17 Address Telephone Directory. The WSUAC was formerly known
18 as West Side CORE. [REDACTED] (c) b1

19 The WSUAC has sponsored or co-sponsored demonstrations,
20 rallies, and/or fund-raising affairs during 1965 with one
21 or more of the following organizations:
22

23 The Upper West Side Du Bois Club

24 The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee

25 The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party
26
27

28
29 LEADS

30
31 BALTIMORE

32
33 [REDACTED] b1
34 [REDACTED]
35 [REDACTED] (c)
36
37 NEW YORK

38
39 At New York City, New York: Attempt to identify
40 BILL (LNU), mentioned in enclosed LHM and advise Bureau,
41 Baltimore, Jackson, New Orleans and Newark.
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CONFIDENTIAL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Newark, New Jersey

September 20, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)
DATE 10/1/65

2055 4
8701180

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gcl/jw 7-17-88
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-20-88

57-2466-64
ENCLOSURE
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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11 THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
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CONFIDENTIAL

15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED] (c)
18

b1

19 This document contains neither recommendations
20 nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
21 It is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
22 and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not
23 to be distributed outside your agency.
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CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CHARLOTTE(Your file 157-442)DATE: 9/23/65FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 157-2466)Room No. 808 R.B.☐ Post in file and
destroy 0-1
(For SOG use
only)SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERSLetter will be submitted 10-1-65☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.☒ Reurtel 9/13/65 captioned PROPOSED VOTER REGISTRATION
DEMONSTRATION, PLYMOUTH, WASHINGTON COUNTY, N.C., 8/14/65
CR - EL RM☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted
☒ 2. DATE ☐ report ☐ 90-day progress letter ☒ will be submitted

Reporting employee _____

☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted _____☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecution
☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo **to verify presence of "Deacons"**
☐ 5. Submit ☐ report **allegedly sent to Plymouth N.C.**
☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter **by from Atlanta, Ga.**
(Date)(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. **ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED** Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial in case file.)

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1964-O-738-077

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gch/fv

F B I

Date: 9/22/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (157-731) (P)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
aka
RM

REC-68

Re Savannah letter, 9/15/65.

On 9/14/65 [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted], advised that no chapters of this organization have been formed in the St. George, S. C., area but that if harassment of civil rights workers in this area does not come to a halt, they believe a chapter will be formed.

They claimed that several people whom they refuse to identify have asked questions concerning this organization. The questions they claimed were asked of [redacted] in St. George, S. C., on 9/13/65. They also claimed they were not at liberty to divulge the advice given these people by [redacted].

This matter will be followed closely to determine if a chapter is formed in this area.

3- Bureau (RM)
1- Savannah

HCB:elh
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP184/11 157-2466-65

REC-68

3 SEP 24 1965

EX-117

G. Wick

SUPV. CONTROL

Approved: [Signature] 50 OCT 1 1965
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ Per _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

927

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (Your file 157-1184) DATE: 9/23/65

FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 157-2466)

Room No. 808-R.B.

☐ Post in file and
~~destroy 0-1~~
 (For SOG use
 only)
SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERSALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency. DATE 7-17-80 BY SP/gh/fv

☒ ReBulet 8/17/65

☒ 2. DATE ☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted ☒ will be submitted
☐ report ☒ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter ☒ will be submitted
*LHM will be sub-
mitted by 10-1-65*

Reporting employee _____

☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted _____

☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecution
☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo

☐ 5. Submit ☐ report ☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter by _____
 (Date) 5

Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial in case file.)

FBI

Date: 9/16/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413) (RUC)
RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTER

Re San Antonio Airtel to the Director

8/28/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 8 copies of Letterhead memorandum on captioned matter suitable for dissemination.

Copies of this Letterhead memorandum are being submitted locally to OSI, ONI, INTC, and U.S. Secret Service.

is

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SERREC-18
DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

LEADS

DATE FORW: 9/27/65

ALBANY HOW FORW: RLS

BY: RPR: C.I.

AT ITHACA, NEW YORK

157-2466-660
EX-113
12 SEP 23 1965

Verify residence of

One copy of this Airtel and LHM designated for Houston for information inasmuch as resides within the Houston Division.

ENCLOSURE

3-Bureau (Encl 8)

1-Houston (Encl 1)

2-New Orleans (Encl 2) (157-3290)

2-Albany (Encl 2) (157-163)

2-San Antonio (1-157-413) (1-157-414) GWHC/cjh (10)

Approved: 5 OCT 1

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1821/jk

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10 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
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38 The August 8, 1965, issue of the San Antonio Light,
39 a daily newspaper in San Antonio, Texas, carried an article
40 datelined Austin, Texas, stating that Mark Klein, a Cornell
41 University student, is responsible for the formation of the
42 Committee to Aid the Deacons, the purpose of which is to aid
43 "the Deacons for defense and justice." Klein described the
44 "Deacons" as "an armed Negro self defense group."
45

46 This document contains neither recommendations nor
47 conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and
48 is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to
49 be distributed outside your agency.
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Antonio, Texas

September 16, 1965

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

Character

Reference Letterhead Memorandum dated and
titled as above

All sources (except any listed below) whose
identities are concealed in referenced communication have
furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions
of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned
to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed
outside your agency.

FBI

Date: 9/21/65

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (157-573)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka
RM

Re New Orleans airtel to Bureau dated 8/4/65.

Investigation on 8/9/65 determine that telephone No. 567-5929, the number set forth in re airtel where THOMAS could be reached until 8/6/65 is listed to the San Francisco Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

A telephone call to the CORE office determine that EARNEST THOMAS was not in town and further that THOMAS was not expected back in the San Francisco Area for some unknown time. This time was stated to be some months in the future. THOMAS' present whereabouts are unknown to San Francisco. San Francisco was unable to interview THOMAS as it is believed that he left the Bay Area prior to receipt by San Francisco of referenced airtel.

Enclosed is an LHM with eight copies for the Bureau and three copies for New Orleans which set forth THOMAS' known activities in the San Francisco Bay Area. Sources used in the LHM are as follows:

LHM

808 RB

- 3 - Bureau (Encls. 8) (RM)
- 3 - New Orleans (Encls. 3) (RM)
- 2 - San Francisco
- 1 - 100-24927 (CORE)

JD/bjd

(8) ENCLOSURE

cc checked to Div. 1 by Liaison PC 26

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI; SEC. SER. WICK

DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FORW: 9/27/65

HOW FORW: RU

BY: EBR: (2)

Approved: [Signature]

Sent _____ M Per _____

5 OCT 1965 Special Agent in Charge

157-2466-67

14 SEP 29 1965

ST-113

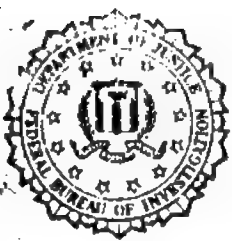
5 SEP

SF 157-573
JD/bjd

(c)

[REDACTED]

b1
b7C
b7D



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Francisco, California

September 21, 1965

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
NOTIFIED

SLIP (S) 8
DATE 9/21/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

[REDACTED] that Earnest Thomas (c) b1
Vice President and Chief Organizer of the Deacons of Defense and
Justice, spoke at a reception held on July 24, 1965, at 3219 Ellis
St., Berkeley, California. This meeting was sponsored by the
Berkeley Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

[REDACTED] that Thomas said he was in the area (c) b1
to raise funds. Further, that the current principal aim of the
Deacons is to bring full time membership into their organization.

He indicated that the Deacons are a non-political organi-
zation and that the organization has been briefed by other civil
rights groups to avoid any political organization of any type. The
Deacons as individuals or as a group do not participate in civil
rights demonstrations in the south but patrol Negro areas of towns
to protect Negroes when troublemakers come into those areas. Thomas
indicated that an effort was made by the Deacons to screen out
"hotheads" who would be apt to cause unnecessary trouble. The San
Francisco Chronicle, a daily newspaper published in San Francisco,
set forth an interview of Ernest Thomas in its July 25, 1965 issue.
Copies of this article are attached for information.

[REDACTED] that Earnest Thomas (c) b1
Thomas was on a regional tour to raise funds. Further, that he was
in the San Francisco Bay Area on July 25, 1965, and spoke at a rally

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1841/7-11-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-21-85

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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ENCLOSURE

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10 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

11
12 C O N F I D E N T I A L
13

14 held at the Macedonia Baptist Church, 2135 Sutter Street, San
15 Francisco, on this date. This source reported that the purpose of
16 this tour is to set up "Friends of the Deacons."
17

18 The "Sun Reporter", a weekly newspaper published in San
19 Francisco, which is directed toward the Negro population, in the
20 San Francisco Bay Area, set forth in its August 7, 1965 issue that
21 a fund raising reception for Earnest (Chilly Willie) Thomas,
22 Regional Vice President and Director of Organization of the Deacons
23 of Defense and Justice, was held at the "Sun Reporter" Building,
24 1366 Turk Street, San Francisco on August 5, 1965.
25

26 The sponsors were set forth as a group of concerned Bay
27 Area Negro citizens to raise funds in order to furnish bail in the
28 amount of \$13,000 for 18 persons who are now in jail in Jonesboro,
29 Louisiana.
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Rights Army -- The Angry 'Deacons'

The civil rights battle in the South may soon turn into a war fought with weapons of violence if Negroes there are not given protection by local law enforcement agencies, an angry young man warned here last week.

The prevalent philosophy of non-violence, said Ernest Thomas, is not shared by Negroes who have joined together in an armed brotherhood known as the Deacons for Justice and Defense.

"We don't intend to turn the other cheek," Thomas said. "Only a fool does that."

Thomas, 32, is a vice president and one of the founders of the Deacons, which was quietly formed some 14 months ago in Jonesboro, Ga., and today claims "a substantial membership."

"We don't give out any exact figures," he said. "The less the other side knows about us the better."

The "other side," he explained, is composed of "the Klans and the white Citizens' Councils . . . and the state police and sheriffs and city cops in the South who either protect them outright or look the other way."

He said that every member of the Deacons owns, or has access to, a gun of some type ranging from .22 caliber target pistols to high-powered hunting rifles and shotguns.

It is not true, Thomas said, that their arsenals include

such weapons of warfare as machine guns.

"I wish they did," he said.

OWN WAY

Asked if the Deacons would lay down their arms if requested to by the many other Civil Rights groups which preach and practice a different method of achieving equality, Thomas said:

"They can come down and play non-violence with those rednecks all they want . . . we who live down there have our own way of handling things."

But the Deacons would never start a war, Thomas asserted.

"We are not violent people as some Southerners might have you think . . . we believe in live and let live--so long as we are left alone to live."

"But if we are attacked we will defend ourselves, either individually or as a whole . . . even if it means dying."

ARRESTS

"We will submit peacefully to legal arrest, but if you think one of us is going to be peacefully hauled off to some jail to get beat up or killed you'll be making the same mistake some Southern sheriff will."

The Deacons claim their right to bear arms and defend themselves is contained in the United States Constitution.

"We hope it won't be necessary to have an organization such as the Deacons in the future," Thomas said. "If we get the protection we hopefully might be able to disband in a couple of years or sooner."

Thomas will speak here at 4 p.m. today at the Macedonia Baptist Church at a fundraising rally sponsored by various San Francisco civil rights organizations.



ERNEST THOMAS

"We'll defend ourselves"

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2

S.F. Chronicle

San Francisco
Calif.

Date: 7-25-65
Edition: Final

Author:
Editor: Chas. deYou

TRIERIOT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-17-84 BY SP1801/f

157-2466-17



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Francisco, California

September 21, 1965

Title: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Reference: San Francisco memorandum dated
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

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Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 10/1/65

STO

FROM:

SAC, CHARLOTTE (157-882)

SUBJECT:

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERS

Re Bureau Form 0-1 dated 9/23/65, Charlotte teletype 9/13/65 and Charlotte airtel 9/15/65, both directed to the Bureau.

In Charlotte teletype 9/13/65 and LHM submitted by Charlotte airtel 9/15/65, both captioned "Proposed Voter Registration Demonstration, Plymouth, Washington County, N.C., 8/14/65, CR- ELECTION LAWS - RACIAL MATTERS," it was reported that the Deacons for Defense and Justice had telephonically contacted [REDACTED] on 9/10/65 and asked if he needed help in Plymouth and that [REDACTED] replied that no help was needed and that they were not needed in Plymouth. b7C

No information has been received that there is any chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice in Plymouth or anywhere in North Carolina.

The Charlotte Office has just recently contacted racial informants and sources concerning the Deacons organization and no information was received indicating this organization is active within the Charlotte Division.

Any information received concerning the Deacons for Defense and Justice will be furnished the Bureau and appropriate offices immediately. C

11-80188
2 - Bureau
2 - Charlotte (1 - 157-882)
(1 - 56-255)

CFW/jb
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-17-8 BY SP184/jk

REC-70

157-2466-68

1 OCT 6 1965

INT. SEC.

FBI

Date: 9/29/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)

AIRTEL ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED (Priority) CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gk/jt 7-18-80

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 9-29-85

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-1184)(P)
RE : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
RACIAL MATTERS
OO: NEW ORLEANS

ReBulet to Los Angeles dated 8/17/65 and New Orleans teletype to Los Angeles dated 9/22/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau is an original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) setting out information concerning captioned organization. Three copies of the LHM are enclosed for New Orleans.

Copies of the LHM are being sent to Region II, 115th INTC, Pasadena, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, Los Angeles, and Secret Service, Los Angeles.

This LHM is being classified confidential because information from sources utilized in the LHM could result in the identification of sources of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.

Sources utilized in this LHM are as follows:

- 3 - Bureau (Encls. 8)(RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290)(Encls. 3)(RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles

RNT:scs
(7)

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.

DEPT: ISD, CRD, HAO, (Liaison)

DATE FORW: 10/7/65

HOW FORW: RB

BY: [Signature]

REC-56

157-2466-69

14 OCT 4 1965

Approved: [Signature]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Per

Special Agent in Charge

5 OCT 1 1965

LA 157-1184

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(C)

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b7C
b7D

LEAD

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: (1) Will attempt to determine if [REDACTED] is training a Negro army in the Watts area and the extent of his involvement with the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

b7C

(2) Will advise Bureau and New Orleans of any other activity in Los Angeles on part of SIMS and YOUNG.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California
September 29, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
also known as "The Deacons";
CHARLES SIMS, President,
Bogalusa, Louisiana
RACIAL MATTERS

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-29-85

DATE 5/11/80

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-69

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
also known as "The Deacons";
CHARLES SIMS, President,
Bogalusa, Louisiana
RACIAL MATTERS

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

In June, 1965, Charles Sims appeared on the
Louis Lomax television show in Los Angeles where he
discussed the aims of the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

A source advised in September, 1965, that Sims
had received an unknown amount of money as a result of his
appearance on the Lomax show through a collection and that
the donations were made by many unknown persons.

Sources have advised in August and September, 1965,
that they know of no contact Sims may have had with the
LAL-SWP of LA-SNCC while he was in Los Angeles in June,
1965.

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (C)

A source advised on September 22, 1965 that Charles
Sims, President, Deacons of Defense and Justice, Bogalusa,
Louisiana, and A. Z. Young, President, Bogalusa Voter's League
departed for Los Angeles on September 22, 1965, where Young
is to appear on a Los Angeles television show.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

also known as "The Deacons";

CHARLES SIMS, President,

Bogalusa, Louisiana

RACIAL MATTERS

A source advised on September 23, 1965, that Sims and Young had arrived in Los Angeles.

The following article appeared in The Press newspaper, Riverside, California, City Edition, September 23, 1965 issue:

"LOMAX CHARGES JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY TRIES TO
BLOCK 'FREEDOM FESTIVAL'

"The John Birch Society has brought 'incredible pressure' to bear on sponsors of the Dick Van Dyke and Robert Vaughn television programs to keep the two stars from appearing in a 'Freedom Festival' tonight in San Bernardino, according to Louis Lomax.

"Lomax, author and television commentator, speaking to a capacity audience at Riverside Universalist-Unitarian Church last night, said that as of last night Van Dyke, star of the comedy show that bears his name, and Vaughn, star of 'The Man From U.N.C.L.E.' are still slated to appear tonight in the show at Swing Auditorium on the National Orange Show grounds in San Bernardino.

"'We are fighting to the last ditch on this', he said.

"Lomax has been a principal organizer of the benefit show, with funds going to help civil rights fighters in Bogalusa, La., and residents of the Watts area in Los Angeles who suffered financial loss in the recent rioting.

"Entertainers scheduled to appear in addition to Van Dyke and Vaughn include Negro comedians Dick Gregory, Bill Cosby and Godfrey Cambridge, singer Sally James, San Bernardino

CONFIDENTIAL

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
also known as "The Deacons";
CHARLES SIMS, President,
Bogalusa, Louisiana
RACIAL MATTERS

"folk singers Sally Thomas and Clabe Hangan and the San Bernardino combo 'The Fasades.'"

"Lomax cited the Birch Society pressure as an example of the fact that the civil rights fight is not confined to the South."

"As another example, he told the audience last night that at a memorial service for Adlai Stevenson held in Bogalusa, a stocky white man with a Confederate flag-styled vest stood across the street and shouted, 'You better pray, you black niggers, 'cuz you're gonna die.'"

"The man was Connie Lynch, Lomax said, 'And guess where he's from.'"

"Lynch, a self-styled fundamentalist preacher and active racist, lists himself as a San Bernardino resident."

"On the same point, that civil rights problems are not confined to a few areas in other parts of the country, Lomax said, 'I've never been in this city before in my life, but I'll bet 15 cents I could get in my car, cross the railroad tracks and find a Watts right here. Am I right?'"

"The civil rights struggle, he said, is no longer just a moral matter, 'It's a survival matter.'"

"The very survival of our civilization and our moral lives is involved."

"The looters in the Watts area, he said, were people from whom our society has failed to provide for their daily needs. He told of a man carrying a sofa out of a furniture store and said, 'The tragedy is the Los Angeles economic society does not provide that man a way to get that sofa any other way.'"

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
also known as "The Deacons";
CHARLES SIMS, President,
Bogalusa, Louisiana
RACIAL MATTERS

"While the national unemployment rate among whites is the lowest it has ever been, at 4.6 per cent, the rate for Negroes is 13 per cent and the rate in Watts is 34.9 per cent, Lomax said.

"What we once called the Negro revolt is becoming a class revolt, a struggle between the haves and the have nots," he said.

"The present struggle is a great challenge, Lomax said, because ours is a great country.

"The experiment we are making is the noblest man has ever conceived. We can lead the whole world to a Periclean age. No one man can do it. No one woman can do it. But each must do what he can."

"Lomax introduced A. Z. Young, a leader of the Bogalusa civil rights movement, who, he said, has had his home shot into, acid poured on his car and has been physically abused, but now works side by side in a box factory with the Klansman who shot at him.

"Young told the audience of determined efforts of the Klu Klux Klan to halt the civil rights movement in Bogalusa, which, he said, were not successful.

"The Klan is on the way out," he said. "They still ride, but now they are careful when they ride and where they ride."

A source advised on September 24, 1965, that approximately 600 persons attended the "Freedom Festival" on September 23, 1965, at the San Bernardino, California, Orange Show Auditorium. Entertainment was provided by Dick Gregory, Sally Jones and San Bernardino local talent.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
also known as "The Deacons";
CHARLES SIMS, President,
Bogalusa, Louisiana
RACIAL MATTERS

This source said that Charles Sims and A. Z. Young were introduced by master of ceremonies Louis Lomax as members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice. Sims did not take active part in the functions but Young gave a five minute talk concerning how badly the people of Bogalusa, Louisiana, need money. He stated that the money collected at this affair would be used for the purchase of clothing for the children of Bogalusa and for the payments of fines and bail for civil rights workers in Bogalusa.

This source advised that no announcement was made as to the total amount of money collected. The tickets originally sold for \$5.00 but several days prior to this affair, tickets were sold throughout San Bernardino for \$2.00 for adults and 50¢ for children. Certain patrons contributed more than \$5.00 but that these individuals or how much they gave is not known. The affair was not a success.

This source advised that no comments were made concerning future travel of Sims or Young.

A source advised on September 27, 1965 that neither Sims nor Young appeared on the Louis Lomax television show on September 26, 1965, and that he knows of no other appearances scheduled for Sims or Young.

Sources utilized above have furnished reliable information in the past.

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3 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
4 also known as "The Deacons",
5 CHARLES SIMS President,
6 Bogalusa, Louisiana
7 1 RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8
9 APPENDIX

10
11 LOS ANGELES LOCAL - SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (LAL-SWP)

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13
14 On May 18, 1965, a confidential source advised
15 that the LAL-SWP has been in existence since the 1930's and
16 continues to exist. The source further advised that the
17 LAL-SWP is a local branch of the National SWP with aims and
18 purposes identical to those of the National SWP.

19
20 The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General
21 of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.
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55 APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/30/65

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (157-372)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SUBJECT: PUBLICATION "REBELLION"
INFORMATION CONCERNINGALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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Deacons For Defense and Justice

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of
a letterhead memorandum concerning captioned matter.Copies of this letterhead memorandum are being
disseminated locally to the 108th Intelligence Group and
to Secret Service in view of the militant tone of the
newspaper as displayed by its masthead which states
"Better to Right on Your Feet Than to Live on Your Knees."

AGENCY:

ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;
DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FOR:

HOW FOR:

10-6-65

ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 8) (RM)
2 - Boston

JFN:map
(4)1cc & cc LHM
808 RBCLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gpl/fk 7-18-80 OCT 20 1965
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9-30-85

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BS 157-372

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

identities could logically be disclosed from this information which could compromise their future effectiveness and be detrimental to the national interests of the United States.

The Boston Division will continue to follow this matter and report any pertinent developments.

- 2 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442684)

DATE 10/6/65

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-927)(P)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT
IS-RAM
(OO: New York)
ReNYairtel to Bureau, dated 8/27/65.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 2-Bureau (Encl. 8)(RM)
2-Jackson (Encl. 2)(RM)
(1-) (DDJ)
5-New Orleans (Encl. 5)(RM)
(1-)
(1-)
(1-)
(1-) (DDJ)
1-New York (105-69417)() (43)
1-New York (100-155126)() (43)
1-New York (100-91911)() (42)
1-New York (157-1469)(ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER)(43)
1-New York (157-1542)(DDJ)(43)
1-New York () (c) b1
1-New York ()

157-2466-
NOT RECORDED
128 OCT 18 1965

b7c

JJE:lmf
(16)

1cc & LHM
808 RE

12 OCT 17 1965

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI; SEC. SER.;
DEPT: ISD, GRD, RAO

DATE FORW:

BY FORW:

CONFIDENTIAL

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
October 6, 1965

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

File 100-442684

Revolutionary Action Movement
Internal Security - RAM

[REDACTED]

(c)

A characterization of RAM is attached hereto
and the sources mentioned therein have furnished
reliable information in the past.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

[REDACTED] (c)

Maxwell Stanford is described in the characterization
of RAM attached hereto.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

~~SECRET~~

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OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP13pl/fi 7-18-85
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 10-6-85

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declassification

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ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

157-2966-

445

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____
- ☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: _____

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S)
X NO DUPLICATION FEE
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1.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding WILLIAMS, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, WILLIAMS fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of DON FREEMAN, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2.

APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

as RAM's "Black Stalin." FREEMAN served as RAM Chairman, with MAXWELL STANFORD, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with FREEMAN since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with FREEMAN's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 10/6/65

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (157-387)

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, aka
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
DEACONS
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP182/H 7-18-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 10-6-85

Re New York letter to Boston dated 8/26/65
captioned "PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY, IS-PLP".

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a
letterhead memorandum concerning captioned subject. Copies
are being sent to New Orleans and New York for their
information and copies are being designated locally to
the 108th INTC Group and Secret Service due to their
possible interest in this group because of its apparent
militant nature.

The LHM is being classified CONFIDENTIAL since the
information furnished by [REDACTED] could logically result in the identification of informants
of continuing value, jeopardize their future effectiveness
and could be detrimental to the defense interest of the
United States.

The information in referenced New York letter to

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)
1 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
1 - New York (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
3 - Boston (157-387)

JFM/cap
(7)

AGENCY: ACSE, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;

DATE FORW: 10/19/65

HOW FORW: R/S

BY: [REDACTED]

66 OCT 22 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on Payroll Savings Plan

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MCT-41
EX 109

OCT 11 1965

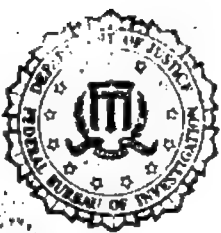
SUBV. CONTROL

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9 BS 157-387
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14 Boston is believed to refer to a meeting of the Deacons
15 at Boston since the YMCA where the Deacons' meeting was
16 held is new and the circumstances of the white group
17 being asked to leave the meeting fits with the group mentioned
18 in referenced letter.
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20 The paper, "Rebellion" mentioned in the LHM has
21 been previously brought to the attention of the Bureau.
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23 Boston will continue to follow the activities
24 of this group and report any pertinent information.
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Boston, Massachusetts

In Reply, Please Refer to

No.

October 6, 1965

FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, also known as
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
DEACONS

On August 20, 1965 [redacted]

[redacted] advised

that [redacted]

[redacted] had telephonically advised him that he had received a rumor that a meeting of some militant Negro group was to be held at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Huntington Avenue, Boston, on August 22, 1965.

[redacted] advised that he had contacted the Huntington Avenue YMCA and determined that they were unaware of any such meeting to be held there. On investigating further, [redacted] advised that he had learned through [redacted]

[redacted] that a group calling themselves the Deacons was to meet on August 22, 1965 in the afternoon at the new YMCA, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. As far as [redacted] could determine, this was a Negro group and [redacted] believed that it was probably the one referred to by [redacted]

On August 21, 1965, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that there exists in the South an organization known as the Deacons. The source described this organization as an armed Negro vigilante group organized for the purpose of protecting the wives and children of the Negroes in the South.

The source advised that on Sunday evening, August 22, 1965 at 3:00 P.M. a group calling themselves the Deacons was to meet at the YMCA on Warren Street, Roxbury. The source

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REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 10-6-85

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~~GROUP 1~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

ENCLOSURE

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stated he was not aware of whether this group was actually an extension of the Southern Deacons or whether they had assumed this name on their own.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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On August 23, 1965 [REDACTED] advised that on August 22, 1965 at 3:00 P.M., [REDACTED] was present at the YMCA building, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, and observed a small group of persons, both Negro and white, most of whom were men, in attendance at a meeting at the YMCA hall. [REDACTED] stated that the meeting had no sooner started than the young Negro whose identity is unknown to [REDACTED] and who was officiating at the meeting, requested the white persons to leave. At this point, Colonel Thomas

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Wright, Executive Secretary of the YMCA, stopped the meeting and told the speaker that the meeting would have to come to a close if people were excluded from the meeting because of their color. The Negro officiating at the meeting told the Colonel that the white persons present who were known to him were sympathetic to the purpose of the meeting and were in accord with his request that they leave.

Colonel Wright stated that no white person would have to leave but the group of white persons present left the hall remaining in the lobby of the YMCA until the meeting was over.

██████████ stated that donations were asked for at this meeting and several speeches were made stressing the difficulty under which the Negro race live in the South and the necessity groups such as the Deacons in the South receive financial support to enable them to continue to operate. These speeches were interspersed with entertainment by a Calypso band.

██████████ stated that the permit for use of the hall was taken out in the name of the Deacons by ██████████

██████████ stated that several days prior to the meeting, flyers were distributed in the Roxbury area of Boston, Massachusetts which announced a rally sponsored by the Boston Friends to Support the Deacons for Defense and Justice. According to the flyer, the rally was sponsored by the Boston Action group and "Rebellion". The flyer announced that speakers would consist of a representative of the Deacons, a Roxbury victim of police brutality and the editor of "Rebellion".

██████████ stated that "Rebellion" is a militant type newspaper published in mimeographed form by a Boston group of Civil Rights workers. ██████████ stated that the Boston Action group is a regularly organized Civil Rights group located in the Roxbury area of Boston, Massachusetts.

At the meeting at the YMCA, a second mimeographed flyer was distributed announcing a meeting of "Deacons for Defense". The subject of the meeting was to be the Los

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10 Angeles riot. The meeting was to take place on August 26,
11 1965 at 8:00 P.M. at the Boston Action group headquarters,
12 384 Blue Hill Avenue. The flyer stated that additional
13 information could be obtained by calling telephone number
14 442-9053.
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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A characterization of Student Committee for Travel
to Cuba is attached hereto.

A characterization of the Progressive Labor Party
is attached hereto.

[REDACTED] (C)

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This document contains neither recommendations nor
conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It
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APPENDIX

1.
COMMITTEE TO DEFEND RESISTANCE
TO GHETTO LIFE (CERGE)

A source advised on February 3, 1965, that CERGE was formed on November 1, 1964, as a front of the Progressive Labor Movement (PLM), presently known as Progressive Labor Party (PLP). All personnel which comprise the committee are PLM members. CERGE was organized to raise finds for the PLM in order that the PLM will have money for bail when it becomes necessary. The people connected with CERGE hope to build it into a national organization.

A second source advised on March 5, 1965, that it is the plan of the PLM to recruit people into CERGE and use CERGE as a recruiting front for PLM members. The PLM plans to give instructions in Marxist philosophy and those who respond will be advanced from CERGE to PLM membership.

A third source advised on February 3, 1965, that CERGE receives mail through Abbott Business Service, a legitimate business operation, 147 West 42nd Street, New York, New York.

The first source advised on May 5, 1965, that CERGE maintains its office at Room 617, One Union Square, New York, New York.

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APPENDIX

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

"The Columbia Owl," weekly student newspaper of Columbia University, New York City, December 12, 1962, issue, page one, contained an article entitled "Students to Visit Cuba During Holidays." This article stated in part that the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was formed October 14, 1962, by a group of students from New York City universities, the University of Wisconsin, Oberlin College, and the University of North Carolina, who stated that as students they would like a chance to see and evaluate the situation in Cuba for themselves and had received an offer of transportation and two weeks' stay in Cuba from the Federation of University Students in Havana, as guests of the Federation. The Committee accepted the offer and applied to the State Department of the United States for passport validation which was refused; however, over fifty students planned to defy the State Department ban and go to Cuba.

A source advised on December 6, 1962, it was learned the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba had recently been formed by the Progressive Labor Group.

A second source advised on September 13, 1963, that during the summer of 1963, fifty-nine individuals traveled to Cuba; the leaders of the group were members of the Progressive Labor Movement; and the trip was planned and organized by Progressive Labor Movement members.

A third source advised on October 9, 1963, the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was utilizing Post Office Box 2178, New York, New York, as its mailing address.

On March 12, 1965, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised as follows:

The Student Committee for Travel to Cuba (SCTC) was formerly known as the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba and the Permanent Student Committee for Travel to Cuba.

[REDACTED] was a leader and participant of the 1963 trip to Cuba and an organizer of the 1964 trip to Cuba and both trips were sponsored by the SCTC.

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APPENDIX

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

By the Spring of 1964, the Executive Committee of the SCTC was considered to be members of the Progressive Labor Movement.

No trip to Cuba or China was being planned by the SCTC for 1965.

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APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP)
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT (PLM)

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the PLP, formerly known as the PLM, held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

"The New York Times," City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as Milton Rosen, New York, President, and William Epton of New York and Mort Scheer of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. Rosen and Mr. Scheer after they were expelled from the Communist Party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes the "Marxist-Leninist Quarterly," a theoretical magazine; "Progressive Labor," a monthly magazine; "Challenge," a New York City newspaper; and "Spark," a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge," page 6, states that, "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life - where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

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